

Newspaper Clips

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Complicated normalization of marks riles JEE aspirants

Akshaya Mukul | TNN

New Delhi: The normalization process worked out for admission to the National Institutes of Technology (NITs) and other central government technical educational institutions is turning out to be more complicated and cumbersome than what the HRD ministry and CBSE had thought.

Normalization could result in a student with high score in JEE (Main) and not so low percentage in Class XII (say 90%) getting a rank much lower than his friend who scored less in JEE (Main) but had a higher percentage in the Board results. Now, many more students and parents are thinking of moving court. A parent from NIT, Kurukshetra, said, "The normalization formula is skewed. For admission, it was decided to use the JEE (Main) performance and the normalized Board performance in the 60:40 ratio. But after the JEE (Main) results were out, the JEE Interface Group has come up with the normalization formula which would put many students on disadvantage." The formula is $C = 0.6 \times A_o + 0.4 \times B$ final, where (A_o) component is aggregate marks obtained by each student in JEE (Main) and B final component corresponds to the Board percentile. The final rank of the student in the JEE (Main) will be decided by C.

The normalization process for the Class XII marks component is 50% of Board marks be normalized by equating percentile among different Boards

Normalization could result in a student with high score in JEE (Main) and not-so-low percentage in Class XII getting a much lower rank than a friend who scored less in JEE but higher percentage in boards

and anchoring them to All India JEE (Main) percentiles, and 50% be normalized by equating each Board's percentile with JEE (Main) percentile marks of respective Boards.

Many students are pointing out that the normalization system is not working out. The moot point is if a student scores 95%, 2% more than his friend who gets 93% in the Board it would mean he has scored 10 additional marks. But this 2% will result in a big difference in JEE marks mapping.

For instance, Tom, gets first rank in JEE (Main). He scored 345/360. Tom scored 90% in CBSE class XII. Let's make a fair assumption that these marks will probably correspond to about 93 percentile in the Boards. Now, for the calculation of 40% equivalent from Boards: If there are 12 lakh people taking JEE (Main), Tom will be allotted marks equivalent to 93 percentile of the JEE (Main) ranks. The official cut-off declared for JEE (Advanced) is 113 with a rank of 75,000 for general category. Probably this year, 93 percentile in JEE (Main) would

correspond to about 84,000 rank and corresponding marks would be about 110 only.

So Tom will get B final component which consists of B1 (JEE (Main) marks corresponding to percentile at the All India level) + B2 (JEE-Main aggregate marks corresponding to percentile among the set of aggregate scores obtained in the JEE (Main) by students of that Board) in the formula approximately as $0.4 \times 110 = 44$ marks. (This is on the assumption that B1 and B2 components remain almost same in case of CBSE). So, total marks of Tom will be $C = 0.6 \times 345 + 0.4 \times 110 = 207 + 44 = 251$

Now, if Peter gets 200 marks in JEE (Main) and 97.5% in boards then probably he is at 99.98 percentile and corresponding to this he will get 330 marks in JEE (Main). If one maps 99.98 percentile to JEE main percentile then marks for B final component would be 330. His B final component will be $0.4 \times 330 = 132$. So total marks of Peter will be $C = 0.6 \times 200 + 0.4 \times 330 = 120 + 132 = 252$.

The error is self-evident. Tom with high JEE (Main) score but slightly less percentage in CBSE gets only 44 marks in the Board component whereas Peter with 200 marks in JEE (Main) but 97.5% in CBSE gets 132 in the Board component, a huge difference of 86.8 marks.

Someone gets 90% in CBSE Board and ranks first in JEE (Main) he might not even figure in top final ranking.

"This is just stupid," parent of a student says.

Harvard MBA Class Breaks Record for Enrolling Women

ERIN ZLOMEK

Harvard Business School expects to enroll a record percentage of women for its incoming MBA class, continuing progress it has made on female admissions in recent years.

The school reports that women make up 41% of this year's incoming class, according to preliminary data released on June 3, up from 40% last year and 35% in 2003. Women made up 42% of last year's incoming MBA class at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School and 35% at Stanford's Graduate School of Business.



Harvard Business School expects women to make up 41% of its incoming MBA class

Wharton and Stanford are expected to release fall enrollment figures later this year.

HBS also became a slightly more selective this school year, admitting 12% of MBA applicants, down from 13% last year.

Applications to the school rose 3.9% to 9,315, up from 8,963 last year, a smaller increase than other top schools reported. The school expects to enroll 941 students this fall, compared with 913 last year.

HBS celebrated its 50th anniversary of admitting women MBA students during the 2012-13 academic year and published a report of the careers of its female alumni to mark the occasion.

That report found that HBS's women graduates are less satisfied with their careers and that many believed the decision to prioritise family over work was a barrier to career advancement.

The school has produced a number of women corporate stars, including Hewlett-Packard chief executive officer Meg Whitman, Fidelity Investments president Abigail Johnson, and Facebook chief operating officer Sheryl Sandberg.

HT Bhopal

‘Education needs quality, quantity’

PREZ SPEAKS Regrettable not to have an Indian university among the world's top 200

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BHOPAL: President Pranab Mukherjee on Thursday stressed the urgent need for reforms in higher education of the country.

There is a need for reforms in the quality of education, but at the same time, quantity of excellent institutions imparting higher education should also be increased, Mukherjee said while addressing the gathering at the foundation laying ceremony of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Hindi University here.

“In higher education, we not only need quantity, but also quality. According to an international report on ranking of universities released by an Italian agency, out of the top 200 universities of world, there is not a single Indian varsity. It is disappointing for us, as India used to be the centre of excellence in learning,” the President said, delivering his address in Hindi. The universities in ancient time like Nalanda, Takshila and Vikramshila were educational hubs for the world. Students from across the globe used to come to these universities, he added.

Despite having several uni-

‘Until the students of IITs, NITs and other institutions are innovative, the country will not develop’
PRANAB MUKHERJEE

versities in this state, there are many places in the country that do not have a single higher education institution that could fascinate the aspiring students, Mukherjee said. He also stressed the need on better distance learning facilities in higher education to make the education more accessible in remote areas of the country.

The President said the students should be innovative for the development of the country. “Until the students of universities, IITs, NITs and other institutions are innovative, the country will not develop. I hope this Hindi university will develop a culture of innovation, and its students will earn name and fame for themselves and the country,” Mukherjee said.

He said more than 1 crore people speak Hindi across the world and foreign universities are teaching their students in Hindi.

“There is a development in the Hindi language and it is the responsibility of this university to popularise the language further. Professional and technical courses should also be made available in Hindi and other Indian languages, so that the students who are not proficient in English but are talented could study with ease,” Mukherjee said.

The President also released a souvenir ‘Atal Samwad Parichay Patra’. A photo exhibition showcasing the personality of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee was also put up. Chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and other dignitaries visited the exhibition following the foundation laying ceremony.

Governor Ram Naresh Yadav, Chouhan, leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha Sushma Swaraj, minister of state in Prime Minister’s office V Narayanasingh, former chief minister of Madhya Pradesh and MP Kalash Joshi, higher education minister Laxmikant Sharma, former Union minister Suresh Pachauri and others were present at the function.



President Pranab Mukherjee addresses the gathering during the stone laying ceremony of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Hindi University at Mugalia Kot near Bhopal on Thursday. (GAGAN NARAY HT PHOTO)



President Pranab Mukherjee takes part in the stone laying ceremony of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Hindi University at Mugalia Kot near Bhopal on Thursday. (GAGAN NARAY HT PHOTO)



College students were dropped about a km away from the venue of stone laying ceremony on Thursday. (GAGAN NARAY HT PHOTO)



President Pranab Mukherjee takes guard of honour at Raja Bhoj Airport in Bhopal on Thursday. (PRATEEN DALMIYAT PHOTO)

Ujjain carries out mock drill; NSG to arrive today

GETTING READY SPG inspects security arrangements; Mahakaleshwar temple to be closed for 3 hours in view of prez’s visit

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UJJAIN: A mock drill was carried out here on Thursday in view of President Pranab Mukherjee’s visit on Saturday (June 8). The drill covered the entire route through which the President’s cavalcade is going to pass through. While the police and administration carried out their mock drill, a team from the Special Protection Group (SPG) inspected the security arrangements. Another team from the National Security Guard (NSG) is expected to land in the city on Friday.

The mock drill consisted of around 50 vehicles and it started at 11.30pm from a helipad and

went via the circuit house and reached the Mahakal temple. Here the officials saw the security arrangements in place. There was tight security all along the route and security personnel were standing guard at all the rooftops of houses along the route.

MAHAKAL TEMPLE TO BE CLOSED FOR 3 HOURS

Security has been beefed up at the Mahakal temple and with Amavasya falling on Saturday, a large number of devotees are expected to turn up to offer prayers. However, in view of security necessities, the public won’t be allowed to enter the temple for three hours. Devotees would be asked to leave the

temple premises from 12 noon. The President is going to reach the helipad at 12.15pm and he is going to reach the temple via the circuit house at 1.35pm. He is going to leave the temple around 2.25pm.

FRUIT PLATTER FOR PRESIDENT

Sub-divisional magistrate Rohan Saxena said the President keeps fast on Saturday and therefore, he will take only fruits at the circuit house, where he will offer his visit to the temple. The food for the President and the 31-member delegation accompanying him is being prepared by the cook in the Circuit House. The district administration has also prepared a menu and

sent it across to Delhi. Earlier, it had been expected that those accompanying the President would be staying in hotels, but all bookings were later cancelled and now it is expected that all of them would stay at the circuit house.

The President would be welcomed by food and civil supply minister Paras Jais, mayor Rameshwar Ahir, inspector general of police Madhukumar Babu, commissioner Arun Pantley, collector IM Sharma, and superintendent of police Anurag. Even though a large number of applications were received from people who wanted to meet the President, only six people would be allowed to meet the President and

they would stand in the first row. Even members of parliament Praveen Gadhuk and several state ministers do not figure in this list. According to the collector, apart from the six people, a warrant Congress leader and five supporters would be standing in the second row to welcome the President.

PREZ WILL COME IN MI 8 HELICOPTER

A SPG team came in a MI 17 helicopter and landed at the helipad. Squadron leader SP Singh said on Saturday, three helicopters would land at the helipad. The President will travel in a MI 8 helicopter and SPG officials will travel in two other MI 17 helicopters. No one would

be allowed near the helipad four hours before the scheduled arrival of the President. Only two vehicles would be allowed for the VIPs who are expected to greet the president.

BULLET PROOF CAR FROM RAJASTHAN

A bullet proof vehicle (Safa SUV, No. RJ-14-43K-8085) is being called from Rajasthan for the President, and he will travel in this vehicle during his stay in the city. According to Madhukumar, over 1,000 men are being pressed into service for the Presidential visit. He said special traffic arrangements are being made in the city during the period the President will be in the city.



The dress rehearsal of President's motorcade in progress at Regal Square in Indore on Thursday. (ARUN MENDHRE HT PHOTO)



Police officers shoo children away in Ujjain on Thursday as an IAF helicopter takes a dry run ahead of President's visit. (HT PHOTO)

Police leave no stone unturned

SECURITY Real time rehearsal held

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INDORE: Tight security arrangements have been made by Indore police for the President's visit to the city on Saturday. The Indore police did a real time rehearsal from Indore airport to Indian Institute of Technology, Indore (IIT-D) on Thursday.

The police are scanning hotels, railway stations and bus stops and are keeping an eye on the details of people entering in the city. More than 3,000 police personnel have been deployed for the security.

Vipin Maheswari, inspector general of police (IG), Indore, is in charge of the overall security arrangement and is being assisted by deputy inspectors general and superintendents of police. P.K. Madhur, DIG (rural), is in the charge of the security arrangements inside the IIT-D campus while separate officers have been

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made in charge of the different places in the city. DIG Rakesh Gupta will be the in-charge of the security arrangements in the city and will be assisted by the two SIs — OP Tripathi and Anil Singh Kishore. A senior police officer said the police are scanning the behaviour and the service records of all the drivers deployed in the duty of the president's visit. The IG had also convened a review meeting of the security arrangements on Thursday night. A mobile command and control unit will also be deployed during the visit.



Full dress rehearsal of President's motorcade in progress in Ujjain on Thursday. (HT PHOTO)

‘Varsities should embrace innovation’

RGVP CONVOCATION Inculcate civilisational values into students: President

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BHOPAL: To build knowledge-based economy, emphasis would have to be laid on research and innovation and universities would have to take initiative for this purpose, President of India Pranab Mukherjee said on Thursday.

Addressing the eighth convocation programme at the Rajiv Gandhi Proudyogiki Vishwavidyalaya (RGVP), the President said that innovation is a matter of development and if knowledge is power then innovation is practical application of this power.

“Why can’t each university start an innovation club?” the president queried adding that at a recent meeting with vice-chancellors of central universities, he asked them to develop one department as centre of excellence and achieve linkage with grassroots innovators. “These innovators require patronage, support and mentoring and the universities could easily provide this,” Mukherjee said.

DEGREES AND MEDALS

During the ceremony, apart from DP Agrawal, advisor to Prime Minister Sam Pitroda was also awarded honorary doctorate of science degree in absentia. In all, 16 scholars were conferred Ph.D degrees while total 50,731 students were awarded graduate and postgraduate degrees in various engineering and technological courses. Only about 500 of these students attended the ceremony. The university presented 41 gold medals to 28 toppers of different courses and 28 silver medals to second toppers.

Coming to the students who received degrees during the convocation, the President said that they should keep in mind the three main teachings that were imparted by the ancient gurus as parting advice to their pupils — be righteous, be truthful and stand by one’s own conviction. He also said that after receiving their degrees students should be ready to face challenges of life alone, but they shouldn’t feel threatened because the skills and knowledge imparted to them would always stand by them.

He urged them to remember that the society has contributed towards making them what they become and they have some obligations towards society. Earlier, the President, like his speech at foundation stone

CHANCELLOR'S GOLD MEDAL WINNERS

- Anil Kumar Pathak, Laxminarain College of Technology, Bhopal (BE, electrical and electronics engineering)
- Navrati Jain, School of Architecture, IPS Academy, Indore (Bachelor of Architecture)
- Ayushi Pathwal, Adina Institute of Pharmaceutical Science, Sagar (Bachelor of Pharmacy)
- Chandrika Sapani, Laxminarain College of Technology, Bhopal (BE, electronics and communication engineering)
- Chintanada Singh, IIT Group of Institutions, Gwalior (BE, chemical engineering)
- Poo Prakash, Radhakaram Institute of Technology and Science, Bhopal (BE, mechanical engineering)
- Rishi Chaturvedi, KC Birla College of Technology, Bhopal (BE, computer science and engineering)
- Pushpendra Kumar Shukla, Govt Polytechnic, Satna (Diploma in Engineering, Cement Technology)
- Vinit Kumar Shukla, Govt Polytechnic, Satna (Diploma in Engineering, Cement Technology)

laying ceremony of Atal Bihari Vajpayee Hindi University, lamented the lack of quality in higher education in recent centuries and especially post-independence. He said that while there is need of quantitative expansion of higher education in India (the enrolment of student in age group of 18-24 is just 7% compared to 2% in Germany and 34% in US), more emphasis was needed on qualitative improvement.

Earlier, chairman of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) DP Agrawal also emphasised on innovation and flexible mode of functioning for university to ensure qualitative and quantitative growth.

The chief minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan called upon youth to go in for entrepreneurship and announced that the state government would be training youth for contractor’s job, provide loan up to Rs 25 lakh to them and also become their guarantor. He also said that internet connectivity would be provided to all villages to help the youth grow. Union minister of state for prime minister’s office V Narayanasingh and state minister for higher and technical education Mahendra Hardia and former union minister Suresh Pachauri were present. Vice-chancellor of university, Piyush Trivedi presented the convocation report.